

CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 14, and 22 and cancel claims 2-4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19-21 and 23 without prejudice or disclaimer. A copy of all pending claims and a status of the claims is provided below.

Claim 1: (currently amended) A gas opening/closing pin which opens and closes a gas inlet and outlet formed in a pipe holder which seals one end portion of a cylinder and moves the position of a piston in the cylinder, wherein at least one ~~indented portion~~ streamlined recess portion which opens the gas inlet and outlet is formed on a side of the outer peripheral surface of the central portion of the gas opening/closing pin and one of an integrally formed stepped diameter reducing portion is formed at an upper end of the opening/closing pin surface of the central portion. stepped diameter reducing portion is formed at an upper end of the opening/closing pin washer-shaped boss body portion is formed at a lower end of the opening/closing pin, wherein the streamlined recessed portion does not extend about the entire outer periphery of the central portion.

Claims 2-4: (cancelled)

Claim 5: (previously presented) A gas/opening closing pin according to claim 1, wherein the gas opening/closing pin is made of a metal.

Claim 6: (cancelled)

Claim 7: (previously presented) A gas/opening closing pin according to claim 1,
wherein the gas opening/closing pin is made of a non-metal.

Claim 8-10: (cancelled)

Claim 11: (previously amended) A gas/opening closing pin according to claim 1, wherein
the recessed portion comprises a plurality of streamlined-shaped recesses.

Claim 12: (cancelled)

Claim 13: (cancelled)

Claim 14: (currently amended) A gas opening/closing pin according to claim ~~10~~ 1,
~~wherein the~~ further comprising a diameter reducing portion has with a tapered end
portion at the upper end of the opening/closing pin.

Claims 15 -21: (cancelled)

Claim 22: (currently amended) The gas opening/closing pin according to claim ~~10~~ 1,
wherein the at least one streamlined recessed portion has an entirely closed circumference
defined by a non-recessed portion of the outer peripheral surface.

Claim 23: (Cancelled)